gave positive signal for the mice immunized with AR 47.47 in experiment 7. This second assay however has not been standardized at this time and the results should be analyzed with caution since in many cases the positive control (performed with AR 47.47) showed negative signal. Since the PSA peptide used for this assay contains cysteine residues we believed that a cyclisation or polymerization of the peptide occurs after solubilization and/or storage of the peptide. Such effect may impairs the binding of the peptide to streptavidin coated plate or to specific antibodies (*i.e.*, AR 47.47 or Ab3).

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 12, 13, 16, 18, 19, 24, 25, and 27 without prejudice.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(i), please amend claims 14, 15, 17, and 20 to read as follows.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the binding agent is produced by a hybridoma that has ATCC Accession Number HB-12526.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the immune response comprises a humoral and cellular immune response.

17. (Amended) A method for inducing an immune response to prostate specific antigen comprising administering a binding agent to a patient, wherein the binding agent specifically binds to an epitope of circulating prostate specific antigen, the epitope comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, the binding agent being capable of binding to the antigen to form an immunogenic binding agent-antigen complex.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the binding agent is conjugated to an immunogenic carrier.